LISTINGS OF THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A lifting device comprising:

a patient support;

a base plate;

a lifting linkage that connects the patient support to the base plate, the lifting linkage comprising ~~and has at least~~ two ~~sub-linkages~~ scissors assemblies connected to one another via a central articulation, one of the two scissors assemblies comprising a pair of front scissors feet; and

a drive unit directly coupled to the central articulation, the drive unit being ~~that is~~ operable to adjust the height of the patient support[[,]] and act on the central articulation,

wherein the pair of front scissors feet ~~one of the at least two sub-linkages~~ is ~~rotatably~~ connected to the base plate in an articulated manner~~by front scissors~~, and

wherein the drive unit is arranged between the pair of front scissors feet, ~~in a plane through~~ an axis of rotation of the front scissors feet extending through part of the drive unit~~and the central articulation~~.

2. – 5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) The lifting device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the one of the two scissors assemblies comprises a pair of rear scissors feet, and

wherein the one of the ~~at least~~ two ~~sub-linkages~~ scissors assemblies is fastened on the base plate by the pair of rear scissors feet such that the one ~~sub-linkage~~ scissors assembly runs over the base plate when the height of the patient support is adjusted.

7. – 10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) The lifting device as claimed in claim 6, wherein the rear scissors feet are connected via a slide and are operable to run over a running rail of the base plate when the height of the patient support is adjusted.

12. (Currently Amended) A lifting device comprising:

a top part and a bottom part,

a lifting linkage that connects the top part to the bottom part, the lifting linkage comprising ~~and has at least~~ two ~~sub-linkages~~ scissors assemblies connected to one another via a central articulation, one of the two scissors assemblies comprising a pair of front scissors feet, and

a drive unit directly coupled to the central articulation, the drive unit being ~~that is~~ operable to adjust the height of the top part[[,]] and act on the central articulation,

wherein the pair of front scissors feet ~~one of the at least two sub-linkages~~ is ~~rotatably~~ connected to the bottom part in an articulated manner~~by front scissors feet~~, and

wherein the drive unit is arranged between the pair of front scissors feet, ~~in a plane through~~ an axis of rotation of the front scissors feet extending through part of the drive unit~~and the central articulation~~.

13. – 19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The lifting device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the one of the ~~at least~~ two ~~sub-linkages~~ scissors assemblies comprises a pair of rear scissors feet that are operable to slide over the bottom part when the height of the top part is adjusted.

21. (Previously Presented) The lifting device as claimed in claim 20, wherein the rear scissors feet are connected via a slide and are operable to run over a running rail of the bottom part when the height of the top part is adjusted.